



February 1, 2010

CDCR Opens Trauma-Informed Substance Abuse Program for Women at 3 Additional Prisons

An innovative program to address the unique challenges women offenders face in overcoming substance abuse was launched this week at the Central California Women's Facility (CCWF) in Chowchilla. The Trauma-Informed Substance Abuse Treatment Program (TI-SAT) for female inmates offers gender-responsive services to reduce substance abuse relapse and recidivism.

"This innovative program addresses the underlying causes of addiction in women offenders so that they will be ready to successfully return to their families and their community," said CDCR Secretary Matthew Cate. "To meet the new budget realities, CDCR is finding creative ways to continue implementing rehabilitation programs and reach as many offenders as possible while reducing costs."

The program at CCWF will serve 175 women offenders, and is scheduled to be



Female offenders at CCWF on the first day of the 90-day program that addresses trauma-informed substance abuse challenges.

fully implemented over the next month. A TI-SAT program opened at Valley State Prison for Women (VSPW) on January 19, and will serve 175 female inmates. The program began at the California Institution for Women on January 21, and will serve 175 women offenders including participants in the Civil Addicts program and convicted felons.

California's first TI-SAT program was launched at Leo Chesney Community Correctional Facility in Live Oak in September 2008.

Due to budget reductions in adult rehabilitation programs, CDCR is using a 90-day treatment program rather than the six-month program at Leo Chesney. The shorter treatment model will enable CDCR to still serve 8,450 inmates with substance abuse treatment annually.

TI-SAT services address substance abuse, trauma information, and mental health issues, in addition to planning for community-based substance abuse program services and community reentry.

For additional information on CDCR's substance abuse programs, visit: <http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/DARS/index.html> or <http://intranet/Pro/AP/dars/Pages/default.aspx>

Conservation Camp Staff and Inmates Work Recognized by Federal Government

Inmates and staff at Miramonte Conservation Camp under the jurisdiction of Sierra Conservation Camp, were recently recognized for their work building an interpretive sign for a popular Sequoia National Forest tourist stop.

On December 15, 2009, the United States' Forest Service recognized the camp's Inmate Crew #2 for their "outstanding work" on the Junction View Overlook Interpretive Sign Project. Jennifer White, Lands and Special Uses Administrator, Sequoia National Forest, made the presentation.

The work project, located on Highway 180 approximately 70 miles east of Fresno, is in the Hume Lake Ranger District in the Sequoia National Forest.



Miramonte Camp crew and staff pose with the monument.

During her presentation, White identified four crew members for their "dedication and professionalism" exhibited during the project as well as

lauding both CalFIRE and CDCR staff for their role in supporting inmates to perform restoration activities such as this sign.

"I have worked with all of the inmate crews from the Miramonte Conservation Camp over the years on several different projects," White added. "I have to admit this is by far the best project we have worked on together."

The project required the construction of a rock structure on which a plaque identifying the surrounding topography would eventually be mounted.

"It is encouraging to see inmates receiving recognition for their efforts from the project sponsors," said Lt. Randy Rowland, Miramonte Camp Commander.